

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Previously Presented) A vacuum fluorescent display comprising:
 - a cathode electrode for emitting electrons;
 - a grid electrode for extracting the electrons from said cathode electrode;
 - an anode electrode for accelerating the electrons extracted from said cathode electrode;
 - at least one envelope which accommodates said cathode electrode, said grid electrode, and said anode electrode in a vacuum space and has a display portion having light transmission properties,
 - wherein said envelope has a stem in which a plurality of lead pins to be connected to said electrodes are buried and which has an outer diameter slightly larger than that of said envelope, and a portion between a tip of an opening of said cap and said envelope is sealed by the stem to form the gap,
 - wherein said stem is made of an insulating elastic material;
 - a phosphor layer formed on an inner surface of the display portion of said envelope and adapted to emit light upon bombardment of the electrons accelerated by said anode electrode; and

a cap made of an X-ray shielding material and supported outside said envelope so as to surround the display portion of said envelope through a gap, said cap having a light exit surface from which the light emitted from said phosphor layer emerges through the display portion of said envelope, wherein said cap surrounds said envelope entirely;
a cooling liquid sealed in the gap, and
a liquid reservoir formed in the stem to communicate with the gap.

10. (Previously Presented) A vacuum fluorescent display comprising:
a cathode electrode for emitting electrons;
a grid electrode for extracting the electrons from said cathode electrode;
an anode electrode for accelerating the electrons extracted from said cathode electrode;
at least one envelope which accommodates said cathode electrode, said grid electrode, and said anode electrode in a vacuum space and has a display portion having light transmission properties;
a phosphor layer formed on an inner surface of the display portion of said envelope and adapted to emit light upon bombardment of the electrons accelerated by said anode electrode; and
a cap made of an X-ray shielding material and supported outside said envelope so as to surround the display portion of said envelope through a gap, said cap having a light exit surface from which the light emitted from said phosphor layer emerges through the display portion of said envelope, wherein said envelope comprises a plurality of envelopes corresponding to a plurality of colors, and
said cap surrounds display portions of the plurality of envelopes all together.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) A vacuum fluorescent display comprising:
a cathode electrode for emitting electrons;
a grid electrode for extracting the electrons from said cathode electrode;
at least one envelope which accommodates said cathode electrode, said grid electrode, and said anode electrode in a vacuum space, wherein the envelope comprises
a display portion having light transmission properties,
a stem in which a plurality of lead pins to be connected to said electrodes are buried and which has an outer diameter slightly larger than that of said envelope, and
a portion between a tip of an opening of said cap and said envelope is sealed by the stem to form the gap;

a phosphor layer formed on an inner surface of the display portion of said envelope and adapted to emit light upon bombardment of the electrons accelerated by said anode electrode; and

a cap made of an X-ray shielding material and supported outside said envelope so as to surround the display portion of said envelope through a gap, said cap having a light exit surface from which the light emitted from said phosphor layer emerges through the display portion of said envelope and having a cylindrical-shaped bottom to cover the display portion of the envelope and a side surface of the envelope, wherein said cap surrounds said envelope entirely.

13. (Previously Presented) A display according to claim 12, wherein said stem is made of an insulating elastic material.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)